

Legislative Committees Doing More Work on Local Levels Now

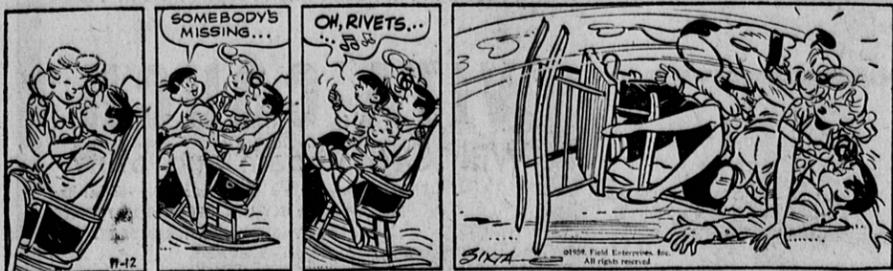
By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 68th District
It's an interesting and significant fact that in recent years we Legislators have been more and more carrying our work to the people, bringing our interim committees into your county and its communities. This practice serves what we believe is a very valuable dual purpose. First, it gives more first-hand information about our legislative functions, operations, and problems. Second, it affords you easier access to our committee hear-

ings, so that you can tell us in person about your problems and suggestions for improvement in our California state government. Local newspapers can also give greater coverage. Our pattern of interim committee activities is designed to produce better and more effective legislation to meet all the needs of our exploding economy. It enables us to make our decisions on stronger foundations of facts collected from a far wider range of sources. Much of our most analytical fact gathering and

sifting is now done between actual sessions by our interim groups and their staff agencies. BUT THIS interim work, important as it is, creates another series of problems for each of us legislators, because of the heavily increased demands on our time. For example, a total of 31 separate interim meetings were held during September and October. An additional 21 have been scheduled for November, and already 12 more have been

calendared for December. Every member of both our houses will have been required to attend at least two meetings during these four months, some as many as four or five, depending on committee assignments. And most of the meetings take two days, plus travel time. An impartial outside study of the duties and required activities which are expected of a California Legislator gives a graphic picture of the time consumed in faithfully carrying out our responsibilities. In-

By George Sixt



RED RYDER

By Fred Harman



cluding our interim work, the report lists fourteen different items in our list of chores, ranging from carrying a legislative bill program, through acting as liaison and watch-dog for constituents with state agencies, to reporting legislative action to constituents in person, by letter, or by any other means of communication. THE STUDY reveals that the amount of work to be done outside actual sessions has increased markedly during recent years, despite more assistance from legislative staff units, such as the legislative counsel, analyst, and auditor, from special consultants and internes. Approximately one third of our Senate members and one quarter of the Assem-

Knights Slate Memorial Rites

A memorial service for the deceased members of the Los Crusados council of the Knights of Columbus will be presented in the council chambers prior to the regular meeting next Monday, Nov. 16th, at 8 p.m., Bert Gagnon, lecturer, announced this week. We welcome this correspondence, however, because it demonstrates that our own constituents, as well as the public generally, is becoming more conscious of the impact of laws on our everyday living. We need this continuous flow of ideas and questions if we are to continue working out the best laws for California. A special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Grand Knight and other council business will be discussed during the short business meeting following the memorial program. The second and third degrees of the order will be exemplified in initiation ceremonies to be held at the council home, 214 Avenue I, Redondo Beach, on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, at 12:30 p.m. A buffet dinner will follow the ceremonial. The quarterly mass and communion of the Los Crusados council has been scheduled for St. Margaret Mary church in Lomita on Sunday, Nov. 29th at 8 a.m.

By Lew Kleis

VIRGIL



SUPERMAN

